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SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN : May I know whether all the District Headquarters hospitals all over the State have been provided with X-ray section and if so, whether the extension of such X-ray section facilities will be considered for the certain Taluk Headquarters hospitals?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I would like the hon. Member to put a separate question.

SRI A. M. RATHNASWAMY : It is very encouraging to find from the newspapers that some public-spirited persons in the Tanjore district come forward to pay adequate amount for the opening of either a Medical College or a hospital or even a Technological Institute. I do not know why the Government should not make use of the amount that may be available from such public-spirited persons in Tanjore for the installation of X-ray equipment in the hospitals at Pattukkottai and other places in the Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I also do not know whether such public-spirited persons are coming forward with such donations.

Control of bus transport in the Tamil areas transferred to the Madras State

* 376 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken over the control of bus transport in the Tamil areas recently transferred to the Madras State ;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to entrust the bus service to private companies ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : In the Kanyakumari district is the Government Transport having an entire monopoly of the transport system or whether any private owners are also allowed to operate in that area?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : No, Sir. The Government have undertaken the responsibility of running the transport system there.

SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY : Time and again the Hon. Minister for Transport has been saying that the Government are finding it very difficult to procure buses and that being so, how are they going to run the bus service in the areas taken over by the Government efficiently and well?

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : With the buses that were running in the district long before it was merged in this State and also with a few buses which are being sent from here. I think there is sufficient number of buses to manage the entire bus system.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Is it not a fact that the Travancore-Cochin Government were running a bus service of their own in those areas which were transferred to us along with other private owners? Also is it not a fact that our Government have now taken over that service which was being run by the Travancore-Cochin Government and have also allowed other private owners to operate in those areas?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : The buses that were run by the Travancore-Cochin State before the merger of those areas are being now allotted to the State of Madras. It is one of the inter-State arrangements and we have also sent some of the buses there. There are certain inter-State routes which are being run both by private operators there and our operators from this State.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether the Government have set up a separate organization to run these buses in the Kanyakumari district or will it be linked with the Madras Transport System?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : This Government have also agreed to the allotment to this State of the following staff from the Travancore-Cochin Government to operate the transport service :—

Gazetted staff—District Transport Officer, 1.

Ministerial staff—About 35.

Operating staff—300.

Mechanical staff—100.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN: திருவாங்கூர்-கொச்சி ராஜ்யத்திலிருந்து தமிழ் நாட்டுடன் சேர்க்கப்பட்ட பகுதிகளில், தனிப்பட்டவர்கள் பஸ் போக்குவரத்தை நடத்திக்கொண்டுவருகிறார்கள். அவைகளை எந்த அளவுக்குக் கட்டுப்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கம் அதை தேசிய மயமாக்குகிறார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : அங்கு இருக்கும் பஸ் போக்குவரத்தை இப்பொழுதுதான் எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம். அதைத் தொடர்ந்து நடத்துவதற்கு எதிர்பார்த்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறோம்.

9-20 a.m. SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : I understand that the transport personnel working in the Tamil areas transferred to the Madras State were enjoying greater amenities and privileges and that they had been cut down after those areas had been transferred to the Madras State. I wish to know whether that is a fact?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : I do not think the Government have, in any way, cut down the privileges which are being enjoyed by them, or cut down the salaries and allowances that they were receiving before the merger.

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SRI R. NATARAJA MUDALIAR : இப்பொழுது நம் ராஜ்யத்தோடு சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் தமிழ் தாலூகாக்களையும் திருநெல்வேலி ஜில்லா ரீஜனல் டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் ஆபீசரே பார்த்துக்கொண்டுவருகிறார். தனியாக அங்கே ஒரு ரீஜனல் டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் ஆபீசர் போடுவதற்கு சர்க்காருக்கு உத்தேசம் இருக்கிறதா? அல்லது அவர்களே தொடர்ச்சியாக இந்தப் புது தாலூக்காக்களையும் பார்த்துவருவார்களா?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : அங்கே தனியாக ஒரு ரீஜனல் டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் ஆபீசர் போடுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் இன்னும் இரண்டு, மூன்று வாரங்களில் ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்கள்.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Before the merger took place, bona fide students who were travelling in the Government Transport buses in Travancore-Cochin State were allowed concessions. Such concessions have been denied to students in the Tamil areas after they are transferred to this State by our Government. A representation on this subject was made to the Hon. Minister. I wish to know whether the Government have restored the concessions enjoyed by bona fide students in the Tamil areas merged with this State?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : That matter is under the active consideration of the Government.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : மாணவர்களுக்கு கொடுத்துக்கொண்டு வந்திருந்த சலுகைகள் என்னென்ன?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN : தனி கேள்வி போட்டால் சொல்லுகிறேன்.

Improvement of Central Jail, Pudukkottai

* 377 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the steps taken for the improvement of the Central Jail, Pudukkottai, after the merger of the State with Madras State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : A statement showing the important events and notable administrative measures undertaken in the District Jail, Pudukkottai, is placed on the table [a] of the House.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : இதர ஜெயில் ஸ்தாபனங்களைக் காட்டிலும் புதுக்கோட்டை ஜெயில் கட்டிடம் அதிக சௌகரியமுள்ளதாகவும், வசதியுள்ளதாகவும் இருப்பதால், அந்த ஜெயிலில் போய் வாழவேண்டுமென்று பொது மக்கள் விரும்புகிறார்கள் என்பதை மந்திரி அவர்கள் அறிவார்களா? (சிரிப்பு).

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : அங்கத்தினர்கள் மற்றவர்கள் பின்பற்றுகின்ற வழிகளை நடைமுறையில்காண்பிக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். (பலத்த சிரிப்பு.)

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 235 infra.